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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/721,868	11/26/2003	Kunio Kato	402886	6088

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3960

EXAMINER

PICO, ERIC E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3654

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/17/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/721,868

Applicant(s)

KATO ET AL.

Examiner

Eric Pico

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 6 objected to because of the following informalities: the phrase "the hoisting machine are located" contains improper grammar. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim(s) 5-7 is/are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wittur WO Publication No. 99/16694 in view of Hiormi et al. JP Publication No. 2000-086126.
4. **Regarding claim 5**, Wittur discloses an elevator system comprising: a hoisting machine disposed within a hoistway between a wall of the hoistway and a car 1, when viewed horizontally, wherein the car 1 moves vertically in the hoistway, and the hoisting machine includes a drive sheave, referred to as driving disks 7, facing the wall of the hoistway, rotating about an axis, and having respective outer dimensions along and traverse to the axis, the outer dimension along the axis being smaller than the outer dimension traverse to the axis; a base member, not numbered but shown as the ground

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in Figure 2, on the bottom of the hoistway, disposed on the bottom of the hoistway; a fixing member, shown as the bottom sections of guide elements 3, 4 in Figure 2, extending vertically from a bottom of the hoistway; a mount member, referred to as mounting frame 6, the mount member 6 being fastened to the fixing member; and a securing member referred to as screws 11, located on the fixing member 3, 4 between the base member and the mount member 6, proximate the mount member 5.

5. Wittur is silent concerning the securing member secured to the wall of the hoistway.

6. Hiormi et al. teaches a securing member, referred to as supporting fitting 11, being secured to the wall of the hoistway.

7. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to secure the securing member disclosed by Wittur to the wall of the hoistway as taught by Hiormi et al. to facilitate securing and supporting the hoisting machine.

8. **Regarding claim 6**, Wittur discloses a mount member 8.

9. Wittur is silent concerning the mount member having a hollow square shape and support sections for supporting the hoisting machine located at the upper portion and at a lower portion of the mount member.

10. Hiormi et al. teaches a mount member, referred to as apparatus foundation frame 10 comprised of elements 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, having a hollow square shape and support sections, referred to as apparatus foundation 10a and reinforcing member 10d, for supporting the hoisting machine located at the upper portion and at a lower portion of the mount member.

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11. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to make the mount member disclosed Wittur have a hollow square shape and support sections taught by Hiormi et al. to facilitate mounting and support of the hoisting machine.

12. **Regarding claim 7**, Wittur further discloses the mount member 6 is attached to the upper portion of the fixing member, shown as the bottom sections of guide elements 3, 4 in Figure 2, extends upright from a base member, not numbered but shown as the ground in Figure 2, on the bottom of the hoistway, and the base member s provided for standing elevator rails 3, 4, by means of the lower sections of guide rails 3, 4.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Pico whose telephone number is 571-272-5589.


The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30AM - 3:00PM M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Mackey can be reached on 571-272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EEP



PATRICK MACKEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600